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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2003, at 2 p.m.

Senate

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2003

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM, a Senator from the State of South Carolina.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Providential Lord of History, we prepare for the forthcoming Presidents' weekend by expressing our gratitude for the way You have raised up great Presidents to lead us in each stage of our progress as a Nation. Today we remember the faith in You that produced the greatness of Washington and Lincoln. Reverently, we recall Washington's confession of faith, "Providence has at all times been my only dependence," he said, "for all other sources seem to have failed us." And we call to mind Lincoln's declaration of dependence, "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go." The same affirmation of trust in You has been sounded by dynamic Presidents throughout our Nation's history.

Thank You for Your hand upon President George W. Bush. Bless him as he expresses his trust in You in these strategic days of his Presidency. We praise You for the integrity of authentic faith expressed by the women and men of this Senate. It is with gratitude that we will say "one Nation under God, indivisible." On this day of duct tape, dithers and panic, we turn to You for peace. This is a Nation You have blessed; we will rejoice and be glad to serve in it! Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 14, 2003.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable LINDSEY GRAHAM, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. GRAHAM thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished acting majority leader, the Senator from Utah, is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Miguel Estrada to be a circuit judge for the DC Circuit. Again, if Senators desire an opportunity to speak on the nomination, they are, of course, encouraged to do so. As announced last night by the majority leader, there will be no rollcall votes during today's session.

When the Senate completes its business today, it will stand adjourned for the Presidents Day recess until Monday, February 24. Members should expect the next rollcall vote to occur at 5:30 in the afternoon on Monday, February 24. The majority leader will have more to say regarding the schedule later today prior to today's closing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF MIGUEL A. ESTRADA, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now go into executive session and resume consideration of Executive Calendar No. 21, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Miguel A. Estrada, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished acting majority leader.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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